CIA cancels spring recruit visit to CU

Camera Staff Reports

The Central Intelligence Agency apparently won't be back at the University of Colorado to recruit this spring.

CIA officials have told the University that budget cuts required by the Gramm-Rudman act will prevent them from returning to CU, where they encountered massive protests twice last year.

Gramm-Rudman, which became law in December, is designed to eliminate the federal budget deficit.

Protest leaders don't believe the CIA's explanation — Kevin Harris, a student leader of the Community in Action protest group, called it "a joke" — and they claimed victory in their campaign to drive the CIA off campus.

"We're thinking about having a big party on April 9," Harris said Wednesday. The CIA came to campus on that date last spring to begin three days of recruiting.

The CIA was greeted by three days of demonstrations that led to 478 arrests on misdemeanor charges, all of which were dropped. Police made another 210 arrests when the CIA returned for one day in November, though only six of the demons rators were prosecuted.

The protesters, a coalition of people from the campus and the community, charged the CIA with crimes in Central America and tried to make "citizens' arrests" when the recruiters came to campus.

Students who want an interview with the CIA must submit their resumes to the University's career services office, which will screen applicants for interviews in Denver.